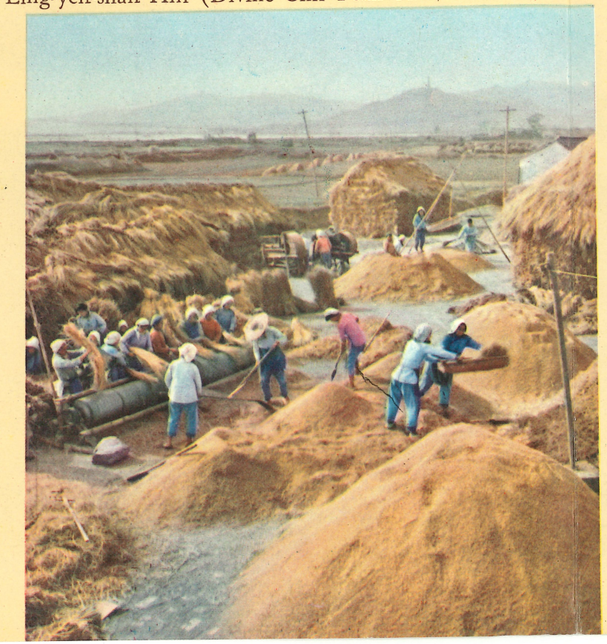
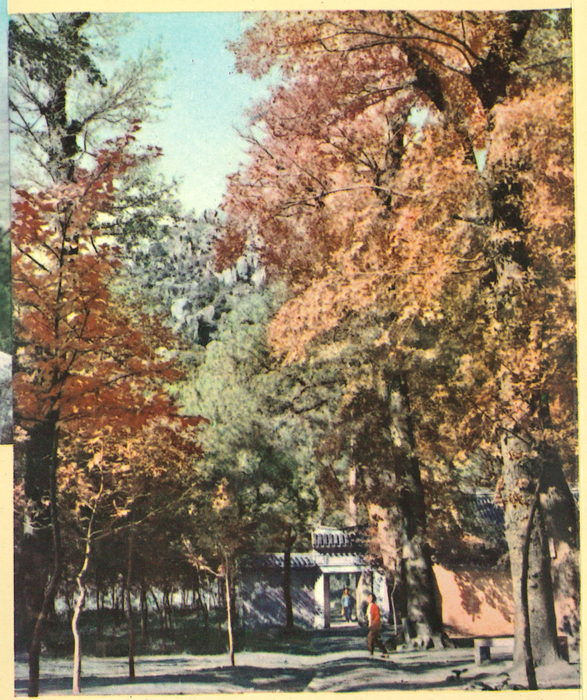
Soochow

China International Travel Service
Soochow Sub-Branch

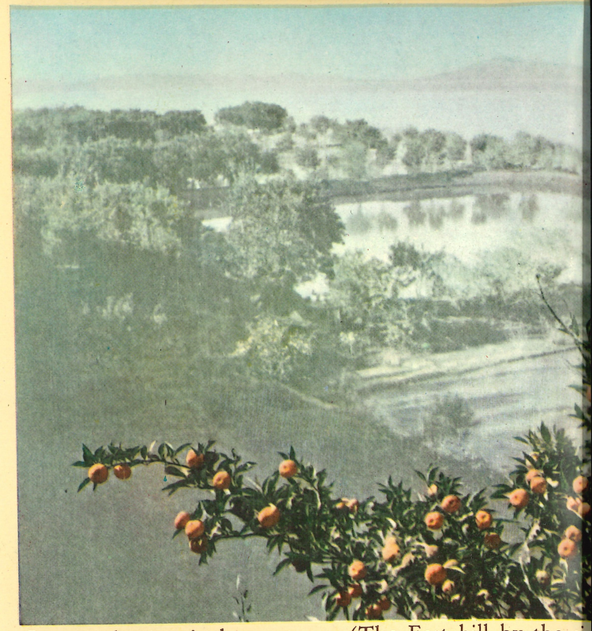
Ling-yen-shan Hill (Divine Cliff Peak Hill)



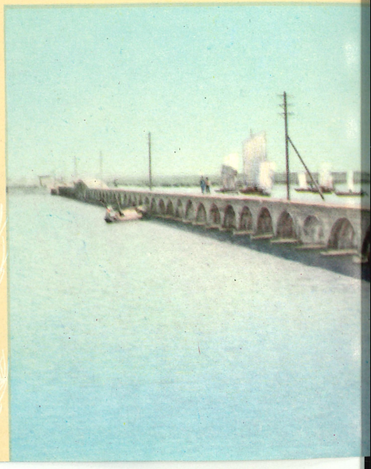


Maple Grove at Tien-ping-shan Hill (Sky-High Hill)

Bumper harvest



Oranges harvest in late autumn (The East hill by the si



Soochow Silk products

Fine arts and handicrafts of Soochow

Soochow embroidery

1. China International Travel Service Soochow Sub-Branch (Soochow Hotel)
2. Tsang-lang-ting Garden (Surging Wave Pavilion)
3. Wang-shih-yuan Garden
4. Pao-tai-chiao Bridge (Precious Belt Bridge)
5. Yi-yuan Garden (Joyous Garden)
6. Shih-tse-lin Garden(Lion Garden)
7. Cho-cheng-yuan Garden (Humble Administrator's Garden)
8. Liu-yuan Garden (Garden to Linger In)
9. Hsi-yuan Garden (West Garden)
10. Han-shan-Ssu Temple
11. Hu-chiu Hill (Tiger Hill)
12. Tien-ping-shan Hill (Sky-High Hill)
13. Lin-yen-shan Hill (Divine Cliff Peak Hill)
14. Soochow Railway Station
15. Pei-Ssu-ta Pagoda (North Temple Pagoda)
16. Soochow People's Emporium
17. Friendship Store

SOOCHOW

ochow, a picturesque city south of the Yangtse River, ated on the Shanghai-Nanking railway, by the shore e Taihu. The city itself covers an area of 22.5 sq. km. as a population of 500,000. Soochow is convenient of both by land and water routes, leading far and wide directions. The fertile soil in the suburbs, sufficient l, moderate climate and abundant agricultural produce have ade Soochow known as a "land of fish and rice".

ochow enjoys the reputation of being one of the ancient l cities of our country. It was founded during the Period ing and Autumn (514 B. C.), having a history of 2500

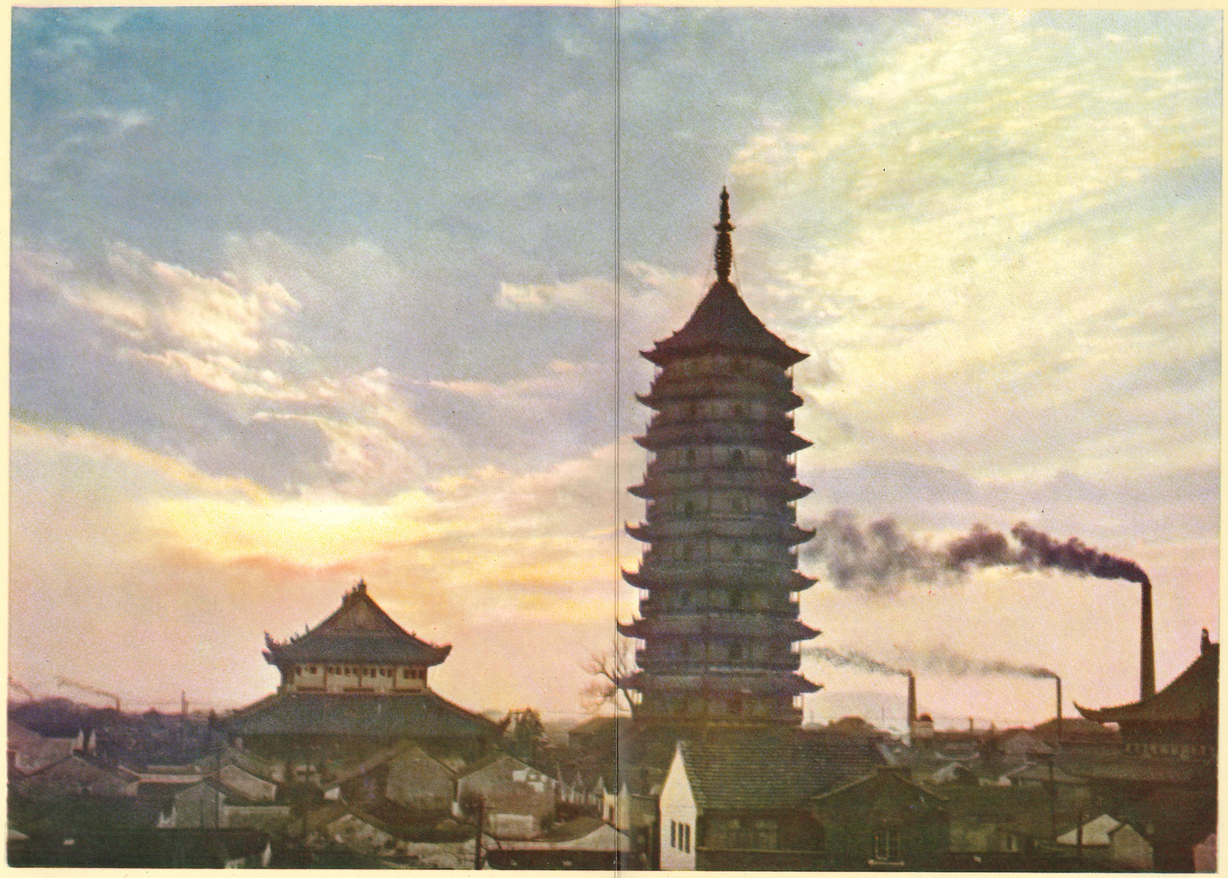
he environs of Soochow are renowned for their beautiful nd attractive lakes. Blending well with the natural of Lake Taihu, the Tien-ping Hill, the Lin-yen Hill and an-fan Hill rise in such a grand splendour as makes one, olding them, lost in deep admiration. The Hu-chiu Hill Hill) is in particular a favorite haunt of the people. All hings togther with the magnificent ancient pagodas, the v-like Pao-tai-chiao Bridge (Precious Belt) and other of interest are national cultural heritages of great artistic

he parks and gardens of marvelous workmanship, located and outside the city, are the finest specimens of the art den-designing to be seen in the area south of the Yangtse such as the Tsang-lang-ting Garden, the Shih-tse-lin , the Cho-cheng-yuan Garden, the Liu-yuan Garden, etc. eir elegant rocks from Lake Taihu, corridors and pavilions n a delightful irregular formation, "crystal streams" and l pools" and beautiful flowers and trees planted here and o screen off some big open spaces. All these look very and picturesque and are the chefs-d'ouvre of the labour- ple of the Sung, Yuan, Ming and Ching dynasties, who ed hard to introduce frequent improvement in garden-planning. The parks and gardens represent the unique style of Chinese gardens.

But before liberation, during the reactionary regime, the gardens and other places of historical interest in Soochow had for a long time been left uncared for and sustained serious damage and some of them had almost fallen into ruin. It is only after the liberation that a certain appropriation is made every year by the People's Government for their repairing and renovation. Now not only have they been restored to their former appearances, but also they have become ever more beautiful. Today, they are the favorite recreational and resting places of the broad masses of the people. Formerly, Soochow was a city of consumption. Since liberation, under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party and the People's Government, this city has got regenerated and achieved rapid development. Now it has become a socialist city. Apart from some newly-built enterprises of heavy industry, the light industry in the city, has attained an ever higher speed in its development, of which the famous local traditional silk industry has shown an unprecedentedly high growth. In the field of arts and crafts, new creations have been made on the basis of inheriting and enriching the old traditions. Such products as Soochow embroidery, Ke silk, Sandalwood fans, Sung-style brocades, etc. are much sought after both at home and abroad for their exquisite workmanship. As for agriculture, thanks to the People's Communes having brought into full play their advantages, the fields in the suburban districts of Soochow are now in the main watered by electric pumps. The output of rice, wheat and oil-bearing crops has been recording an ever bigger increase. The production of the jasmine tea of Hu-chiu-hill and aquatic products from the lakes has been greatly raised.

With the rapid development of agricultural and industrial production, culture, education, public health and science in the city have also registered a speedy growth.

Construction in other fields has also been developing by leaps and bounds.



Sunrise over the ancient city of Soochow

Front Cover: Hu-chiu (Tiger hill)
Back Cover: Wang-shih-yuan garden

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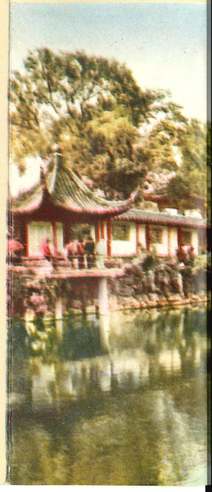
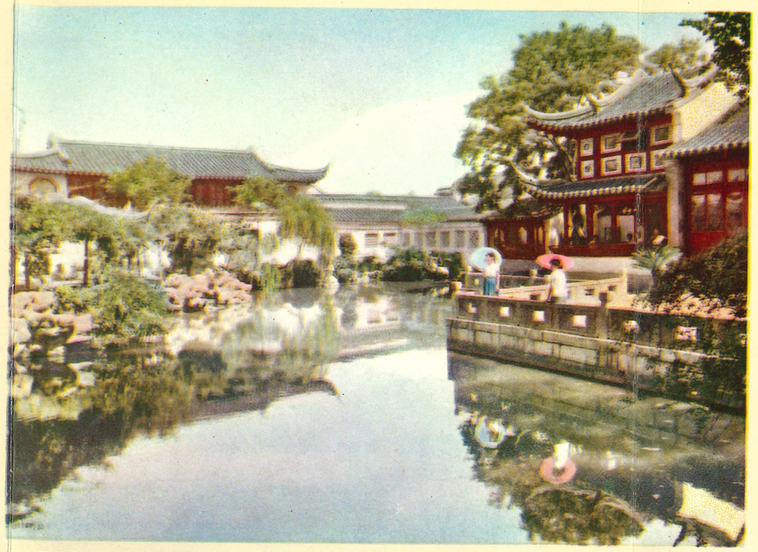
Shih-Tse-Li

Tsang-lang-ting g

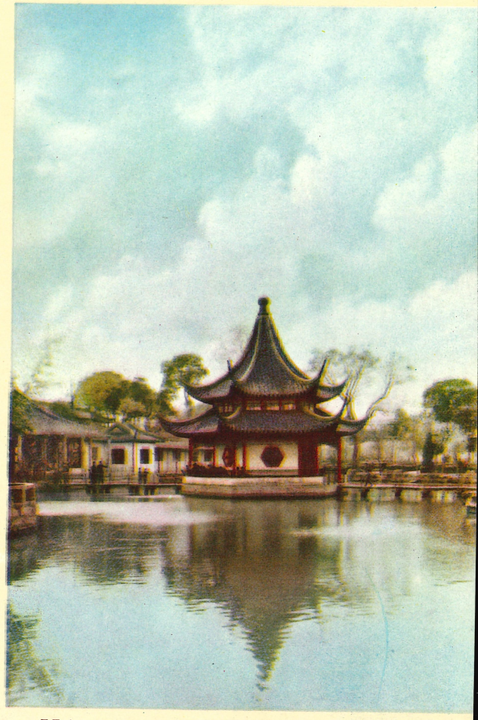


Water-side Corridor over the ponds in Cho-cheng-yuan garden
(Humble Administrator's garden)

Potted plant



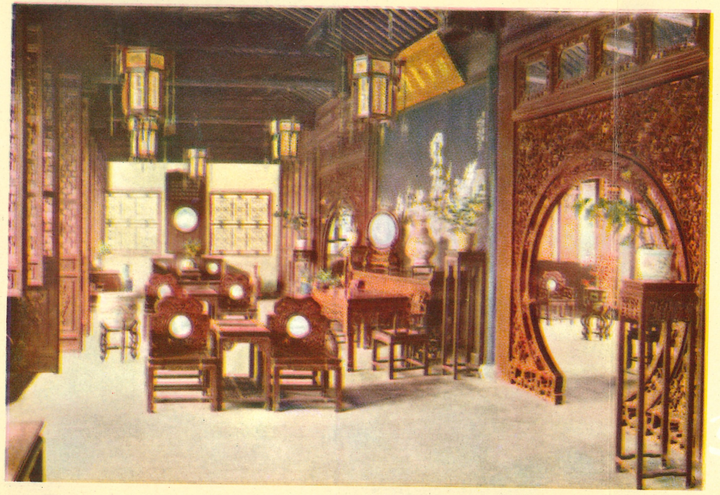
Liu-yuan garden (garden to linger in)



Hsi-yuan garden (West garden)

The Upper Chamber for Viewing Mountain in Cho-cheng-yuan garden

Lotus flower



The Yuan Yang (Mandarin Duck) hall in Liu-yuan garden